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## TO THE BOYS OF AMERICA.

Boys of America, you, and the boys of Great Britain, will soon be placed at the helm of two great nations, which must take the lead of all people, tribes, and tongues, in the course of civilization and Christianity. Remember the world is looking forward with earnest expectations and hope to the time when the government shall be on your shoulders. All the wealth of science, and the progress of ages; inventions, surpassing all that have yet originated in the mind of man, and which shall bring, as it were, the ends of the earth together, and make one's life and thoughts ubiquitous and immortal; railroad chariots, running "like the lightnings" through the central regions of Asia and Africa, now hardly explored; commerce with nations and seaports now scarcely known by name to the civilized world; enterprises of Christian benevolence, of wide-reaching philanthropy, to which the present are mere dew drops to a river; the moral power of mind, acting with the attributes of omnipotence upon brute force and barbarous men—all these elements of moral might will be put into your hands when you shall come to be the *men* of the Anglo-Saxon race.

Now, boys of America, would you be first and foremost among these men? Would you stand before the whole race as the captains of their salvation from systems of despotism that have crushed them in the dust? Then let the first act of your administration be, to abolish an old pagan custom that has beggared the world, and filled it with ignorance, misery, and vice. I mean the whole War-system, especially the preparations for war in time of peace. And let your charity begin at home. Look into the ledger of the United States, and see how this war-breeding system has swallowed up the revenue of the country since the Revolution. From 1791 to 1832, the aggregate of our expenditures, with less than three years of actual warfare, was 842,250,891 dollars; and 805,092,844 dollars of this sum were worse than thrown away in compliance with that old heathenish maxim, "*In time of peace prepare for War*;" all swallowed up by the Army and Navy, which, during that whole period, did not save a life, or add an inch to the territory, or a cent to the wealth, or the slightest iota to the true honor, glory, and happiness of the Union. Just think of it for a moment—during a period of about 40 years, all the other expenses of carrying on this Government amounted in the whole to only 37,158,047 dollars, while 805,092,844 dollars were *thrown into the bottomless gulf of war-preparations in time of peace!!!*—Take your slates and see how you could have disposed of this vast sum of money, wrenched from the hands of the poor laboring people in this and other countries.

The great Erie Canal, extending from Albany to Buffalo, a distance of 363 miles, cost originally 7,143,789 dollars. It was considered almost the wonder of the age when it was opened. The whole country held a kind of jubilee at its completion; and cities and towns grew up as in a single night, where a few years before was nothing but an uncultivated wilderness. Now how many of such public works as this might have

been constructed for the sum which the United States expended upon war-preparations in 40 years?

Mr. Whitney, who petitioned Congress for permission to build a railroad from Lake Michigan to the Pacific Ocean, affirmed that the magnificent work would not cost over 50,000,000 dollars. How many of such railroads might our Government have built, had it devoted to their construction what it has appropriated to the prospective destruction of human beings?

E. B.

### JUVENILE PEACE SOCIETIES.

We have been thinking for a long time upon some plan of setting the young folks on both sides of the Atlantic a talking and writing to each other. What say our young friends of the "School-room" to this proposition? Come, now, let us talk this matter over together. We are confident there are now at the beginning of this new year, 100,000 boys and girls who see and read the "Bond of Brotherhood," in England and America. And all these are so much alike in looks, language, dress, and education, as if they were all born in one country. If "Our School-room" were one of brick or stone, and all these children were actually assembled in it, so that a visitor might see their faces, he could not tell which were American and which were English, by the rose or the lily in their cheeks, or by the colour of their eyes, or hair, or the tones of their voices. We doubt whether he could tell one from the other by their answers in geography, arithmetic, history, &c. Now, then, what should prevent their cultivating a kind of social feeling and correspondence with each other? We have laid before them, at the opening of the "School-room" for this month, a pleasant description of the forming of a Juvenile Peace Society in Edinburgh, as an illustration of the plan we are going to propose. Suppose that a Juvenile Peace Society should be formed at Boston, in New England, just like the one in Edinburgh, and a friendly correspondence should be established between the two, thro' their secretaries, reporting to each other their progress and plans and principles of operation monthly; wouldn't that be capital? Oh, it would! We are sure the Boston boys would be delighted with such a correspondence. Boston is a wonderful place for schools, and the boys and girls there are pretty clever with the pen; and they have heard, too, a good deal about the scholarship of the young folks in Edinburgh, and it would be a capital thing to bring them together in this way. Then a Juvenile Peace Society might be formed in Old York, to correspond with one in New York, and so on, until a hundred Juvenile Societies on both sides of the ocean, should be paired off in this way, and be brought into the most interesting communication with each other. There are more than a hundred towns in America bearing the same names as towns in England. It would be easy to form such Juvenile Peace Societies in all these towns, and to